

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1 - 4 are objected to, and claims 5 and 6 stand rejected.

II. Objection to Prior Amendment to the Specification

The Office Action noted an improper line location regarding an amendment to the specification proposed in the Response mailed February 17, 2004. The specification has been amended herein with the proper line locations.

III. Objections Under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(a)


The Office Action noted objections to claims 1 through 4 under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(a) for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter for which the applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1 through 4 have been amended solely to overcome these objections and are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

IV. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action identified rejections to claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Wada et al. (6,138,257) in view of Aipperspach et al. (6,181,614). While the Applicants disagree with the rejections, in the interests of moving the case along to allowance, claims 5 and 6 have been canceled.

Applicants submit that all of the amendments and remarks set forth above place the claims in condition for allowance, and early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance Kreisman", with a large, sweeping initial "L".

Lance M. Kreisman

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